

TO: The Chairperson and Members of the
Business and Facilities Standing Committee

FROM: Superintendent of Facility Services

SUBJECT: **ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW: ORILLIA SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

1. Background

The Board approved an attendance area review for the Orillia secondary schools as set out in Report No. BF-D-4, Capital Plan – 2011 dated January 11, 2012. Following the guidelines of Board Policy 2317 – School Attendance Areas, the review was undertaken to address program issues relating to declining enrolment, to align elementary feeder schools with secondary attendance areas to as large a degree as possible, and to establish attendance areas that are sustainable and consistent with the approved motions from the Pupil Accommodation Review which concluded in March 2009. To summarize, the Pupil Accommodation Review recommended and the Board approved that, pending Ministry of Education approval and funding, Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute and Park Street Collegiate Institute would be closed and a new replacement secondary school would be constructed on the Park Street Collegiate Institute's site, and to place into the Capital Plan consultation process improvements at Twin Lakes Secondary School. On January 17, 2013 Ministry of Education approval for a new replacement Orillia secondary school was received.

The proposed attendance area changes will provide greater balance and sustainability over the long term for the schools affected by the recommendations in this report and provides the framework for the consolidation of Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute and Park Street Collegiate Institute. The benefits of this consolidation will be reflected in program delivery, facility upgrades, and it provides greater equity in terms of programming opportunities and school efficiencies.

2. Current Status

Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute has an enrolment of approximately 645 students with a capacity for 933 (69% utilization), Park Street Collegiate Institute has an enrolment of approximately 610 students with a capacity for 954 (64% utilization), and Twin Lakes Secondary School has an enrolment of approximately 790 students with a capacity for 966 (82% utilization). The low enrolment and underutilization at each of these schools has negatively impacted program opportunities for students, and program delivery for school staff. Short and long term projections indicate that enrolment will remain stable. Enrolment at the three secondary schools is approximately 2,045 students.

APPENDIX A and A-2 outlines the current attendance areas. The following are the areas proposed for transfer, illustrated in APPENDIX B and B-2:

- Transfer the portion of the Harriett Todd Public School attendance area that is currently designated to attend Park Street Collegiate Institute to Twin Lakes Secondary School;

- Transfer the portion of the Regent Park Public School attendance area that is currently designated to attend Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute to Twin Lakes Secondary School;
- Transfer the East Oro Public School attendance area that is currently designated to attend Park Street Collegiate Institute to Twin Lakes Secondary School;
- Transfer the portion of the Guthrie Public School attendance area that is currently designated to attend Park Street Collegiate Institute to Twin Lakes Secondary School; and
- Combine the remaining Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute and Park Street Collegiate Institute attendance areas into a single attendance area.

These changes would result in two new secondary school attendance areas as opposed to three which is consistent with the approved Pupil Accommodation Review motions of March 2009. The proposed attendance areas for the new Twin Lakes Secondary School community and the new Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute/Park Street Collegiate Institute school community are illustrated in APPENDIX C and C-2. The two schools would be of similar sizes and have student populations of sufficient size to support a wide range of programming opportunities for students.

The proposal aligns elementary family/feeder schools to as large a degree as possible. Currently, grade eight students entering into grade nine from six of the elementary schools that feed into the three current Orillia secondary schools are designated to attend more than one secondary school. For example, approximately 40% of grade eight students entering grade nine from Regent Park Public school are designated to attend Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute and 60% are designated to attend Twin Lakes Secondary School. The proposal eliminates four of these instances, leaving Guthrie Public School and Coldwater Public School as the only elementary schools that have attendance areas that do not entirely align with secondary school attendance areas involved in this review. Portions of these school's attendance areas are designated to attend Eastview Secondary School and Midland Secondary School respectively. Due to geographic, distance, and utilization factors, it is not recommended to align these feeders at this time. APPENDIX D outlines the proposed impacts to the family/feeder schools.

3. Comments

A public meeting was held on November 8, 2012 at Twin Lakes Secondary School to consult with the community and encourage feedback to the proposal. There was minimal concern expressed at the meeting with the proposed attendance area changes. Concern, however, was raised with regards to how the implementation would occur as well as with the timing of the proposed changes. At the time of the meeting, Ministry of Education approval had not yet been received for a new replacement Orillia secondary school. It was initially proposed that the new Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute/Park Street Collegiate Institute school community would utilize both facilities (two campus school) which prompted some safety, administrative and programming concerns from the community.

Staff proposed that changes take effect September 2014 as per Board Policy 2317 – School Attendance Areas. Concerns were expressed that this could, in some instances, result in some incoming grade nine students having to transition to two different secondary schools over a period of two years. It was suggested that the changes take effect September 2013 or, alternatively, allow incoming grade nine students in 2013 to transition directly to the secondary school they would be designated to attend for September 2014. The issue of grandfathering was also discussed. Concerns regarding the movement of current students in the midst of their secondary school career were expressed.

Concerns were also expressed from some families in the East Oro Public School community. Staff had issued a media release and sent communication home with every secondary student and elementary student within the family of schools. Some members of this community however, did not feel the notification and communication process was adequate. Concerns were also raised about East Oro Public School students attending Twin Lakes Secondary School resulting in a loss of the historical aspect of the East Oro Public School community attending Park Street Collegiate Institute.

4. Conclusion

The proposed changes would result in two new secondary school attendance areas. The new Twin Lakes Secondary School attendance area and the new Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute/Park Street Collegiate Institute school attendance area would be of similar sizes and have student populations of sufficient size to support a wide range of programming opportunities for students while also aligning elementary school family/feeders to as large a degree as possible. Projected enrolment and utilization is outlined in APPENDIX E.

Section 4.1.7 of Board Policy 2317 – School Attendance Areas states that “in normal circumstances, a report will be presented to the Board by March 31 for approval of boundary changes for the elementary panel for September and for the secondary panel for the subsequent September.” To comply with this policy it was initially recommended that the proposed attendance areas take effect September 2014. In light of new information regarding Ministry of Education approval for a new replacement Orillia secondary school being received subsequent to commencement of this review, it is now recommended that the proposed attendance area changes take effect September 2013. This would eliminate some incoming grade nine students having to transition to two different secondary schools over a period of two years, provide program benefits to all students who attend Orillia public secondary schools sooner, eliminate the need to have a two campus school community, and allow the opportunity to begin demolition and the construction of a new replacement Orillia secondary school on the current Park Street Collegiate Institute site earlier. It is recommended that the students designated to attend the new replacement Orillia secondary school would be accommodated at the Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute site until such time as construction is complete.

Historically, for program purposes, open access has been practiced in the Orillia secondary schools. This has resulted in a number of students attending schools on an out of area basis. Due to this, and to address concerns expressed by the community, it is recommended that all current secondary students be given the option to finish their secondary school career with their current school community. Consideration will be also given to all incoming grade nine students to attend the school of their choice.

The recommended attendance areas for Twin Lakes Secondary School and the new Orillia District Collegiate & Vocational Institute/Park Street Collegiate Institute school community are set out in APPENDIX C and C-2. The new attendance areas are recommended to be implemented in September 2013.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Business and Facilities Standing Committee recommend that the Board approve the attendance areas, as set out in Report No. BF-D-5, Attendance Area Review: Orillia Secondary Schools, dated February 6, 2013.
2. That the Business and Facilities Standing Committee recommend that the Board approve the implementation of the attendance areas effective September 2013, as set out in Report No. BF-D-5, Attendance Area Review: Orillia Secondary Schools, dated February 6, 2013.

Respectfully submitted by:

John Dance
Superintendent of Facility Services

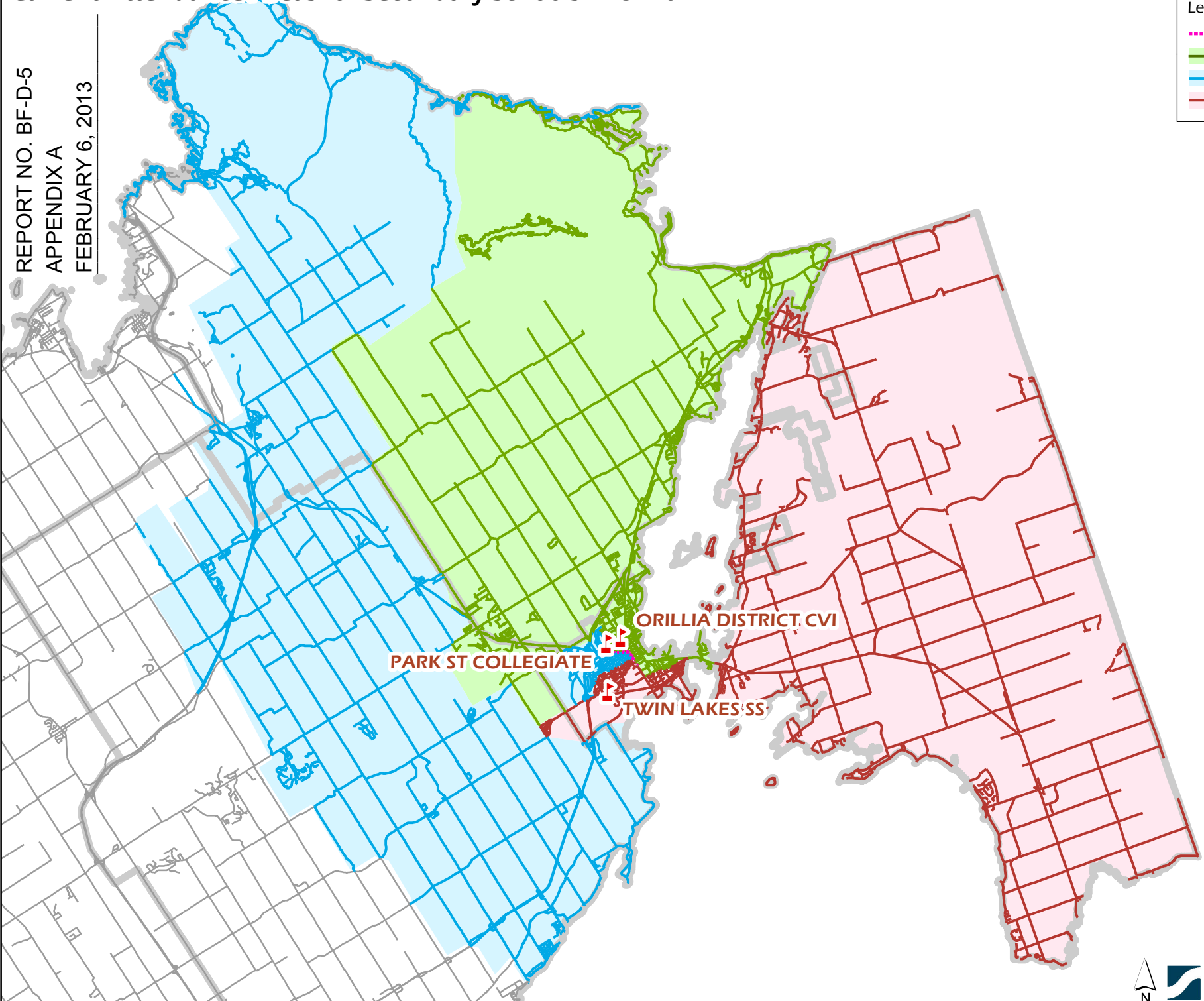
February 6, 2013

Current Attendance Areas for Secondary Schools in Orillia

REPORT NO. BF-D-5
APPENDIX A
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Legend

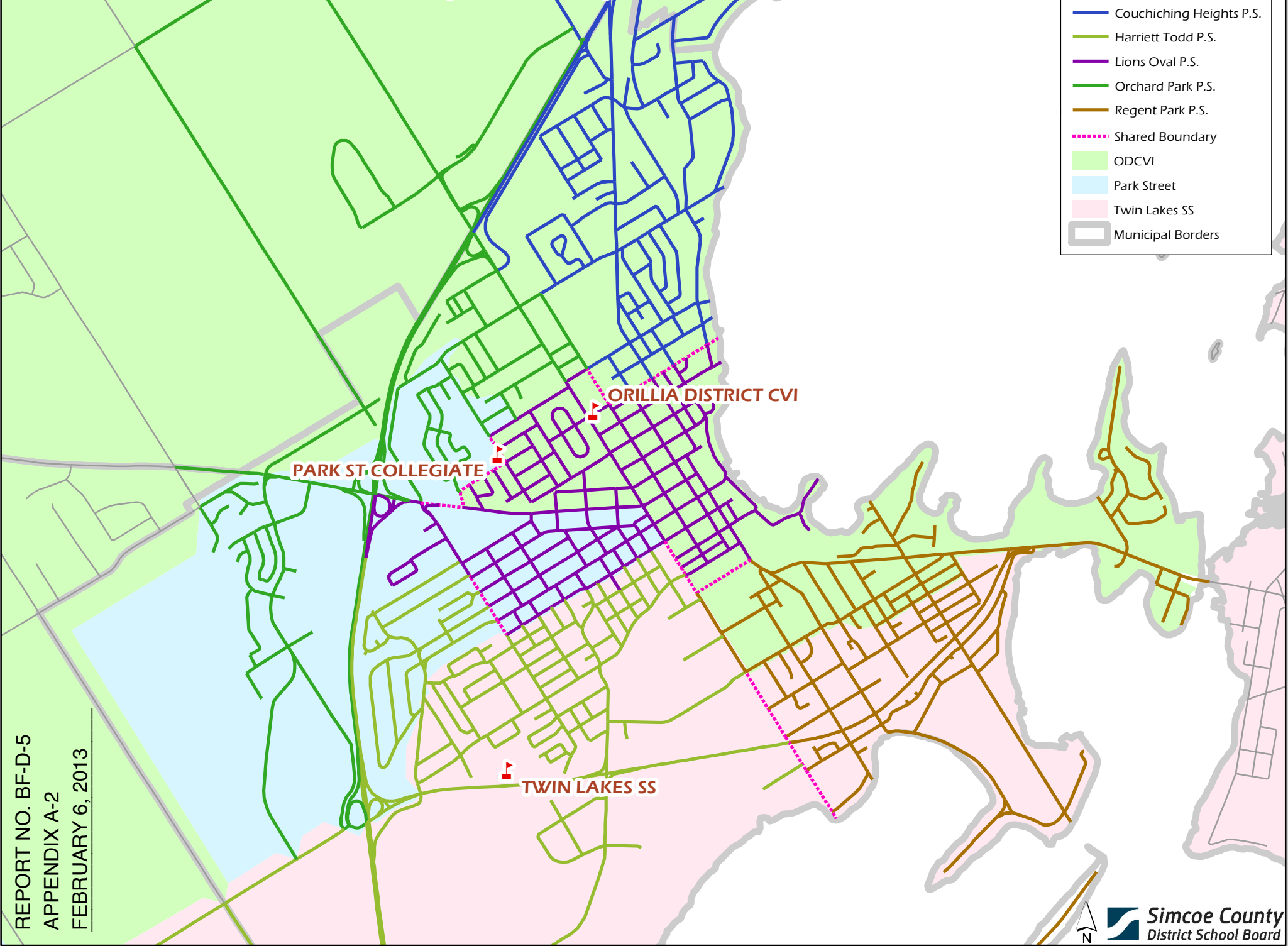
- Shared Boundary
- ODCVI
- Park Street
- Twin Lakes SS



Current Attendance Areas for Secondary & Elementary Schools in Orilla

Legend

- Couchiching Heights P.S.
- Harriett Todd P.S.
- Lions Oval P.S.
- Orchard Park P.S.
- Regent Park P.S.
- Shared Boundary
- ODCVI
- Park Street
- Twin Lakes SS
- Municipal Borders



PARK ST. COLLEGIATE

ORILLIA DISTRICT CVI

TWIN LAKES SS

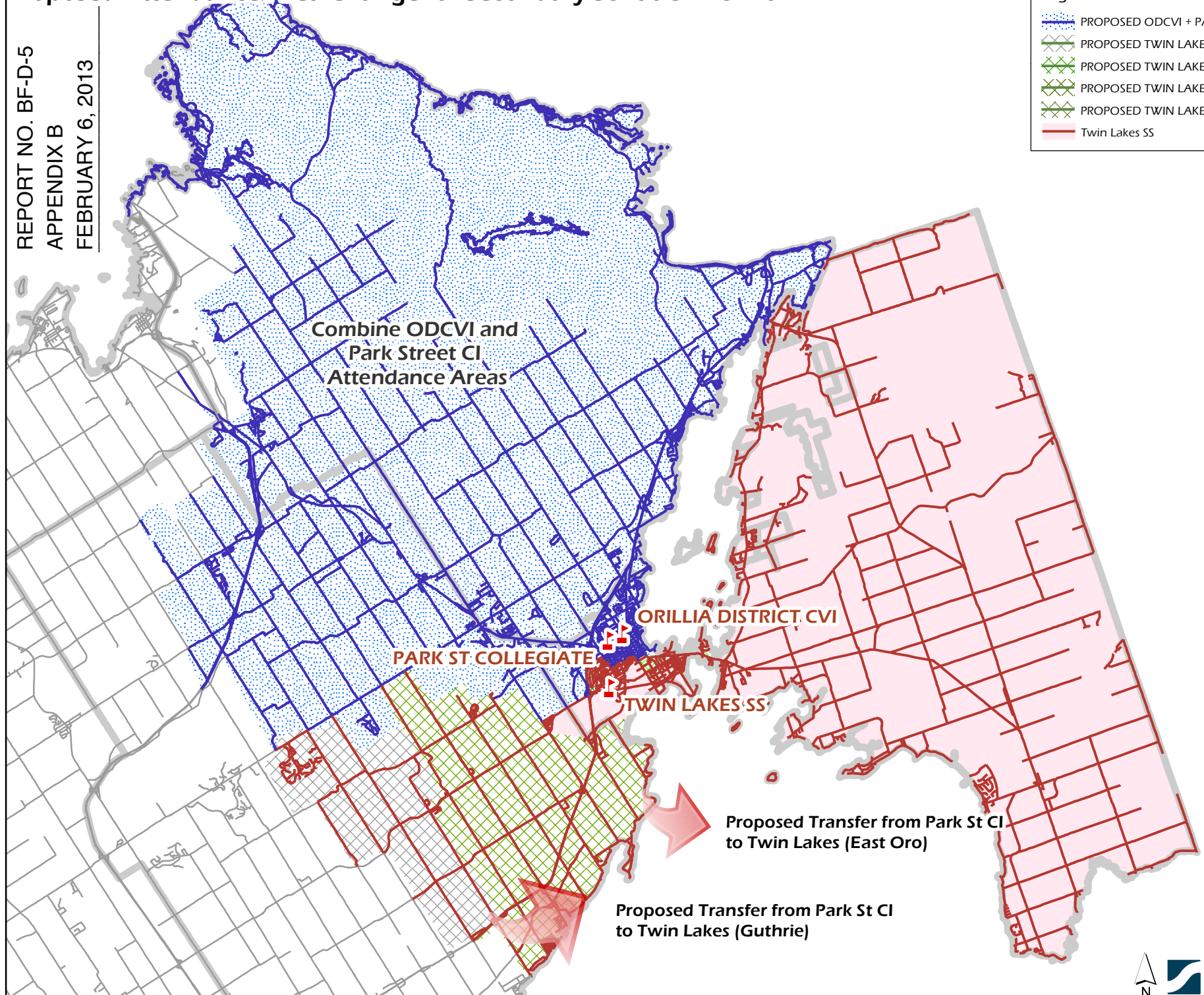
REPORT NO. BF-D-5
APPENDIX A-2
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Proposed Attendance Area Change for Secondary Schools in Orillia

REPORT NO. BF-D-5
APPENDIX B
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Legend

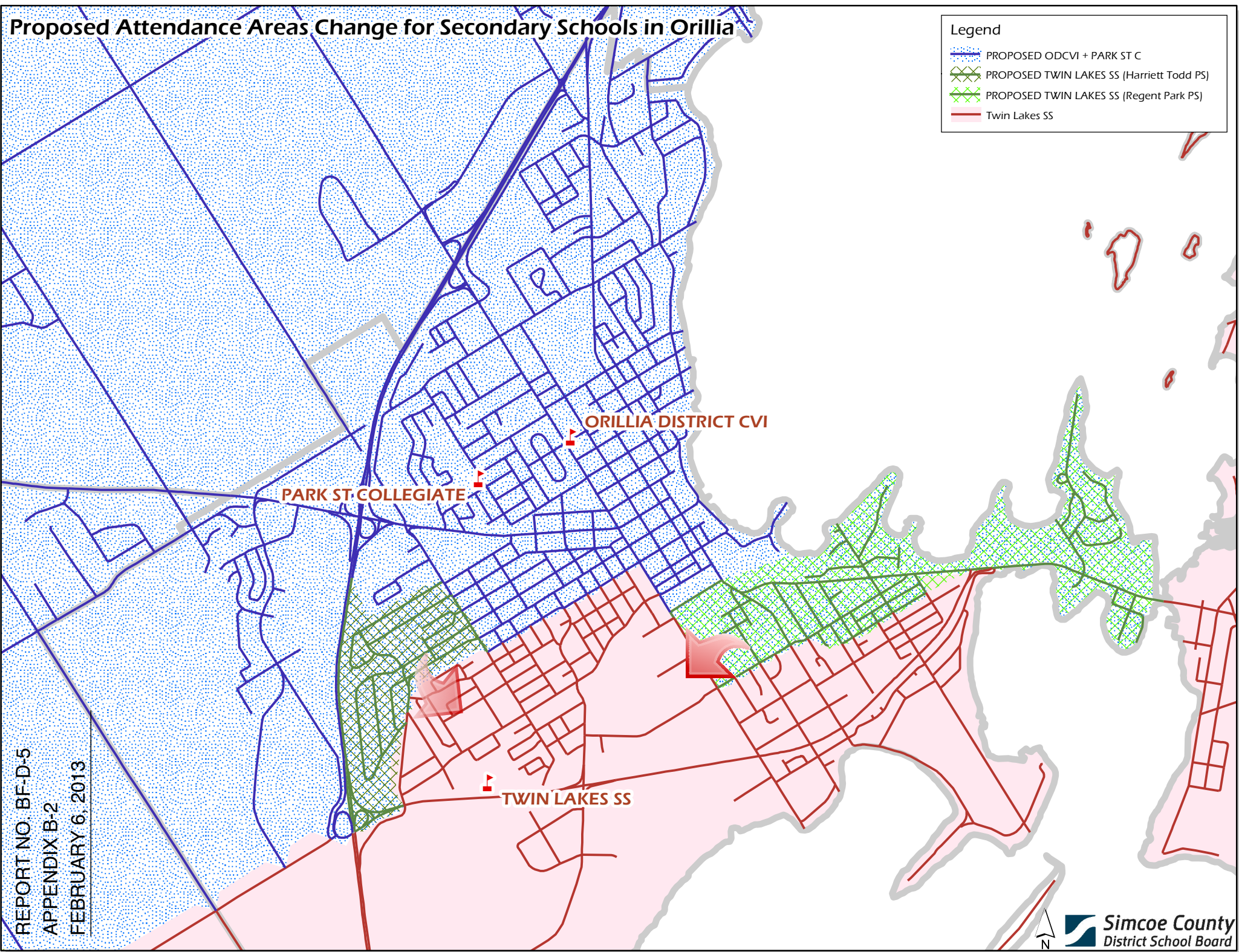
- PROPOSED ODCVI + PARK ST C
- PROPOSED TWIN LAKES SS (Part of Guthrie PS)
- PROPOSED TWIN LAKES SS (East Oro PS)
- PROPOSED TWIN LAKES SS (Harriett Todd PS)
- PROPOSED TWIN LAKES SS (Regent Park PS)
- Twin Lakes SS



Proposed Attendance Areas Change for Secondary Schools in Orillia

Legend

- PROPOSED ODCVI + PARK ST C
- PROPOSED TWIN LAKES SS (Harriett Todd PS)
- PROPOSED TWIN LAKES SS (Regent Park PS)
- Twin Lakes SS



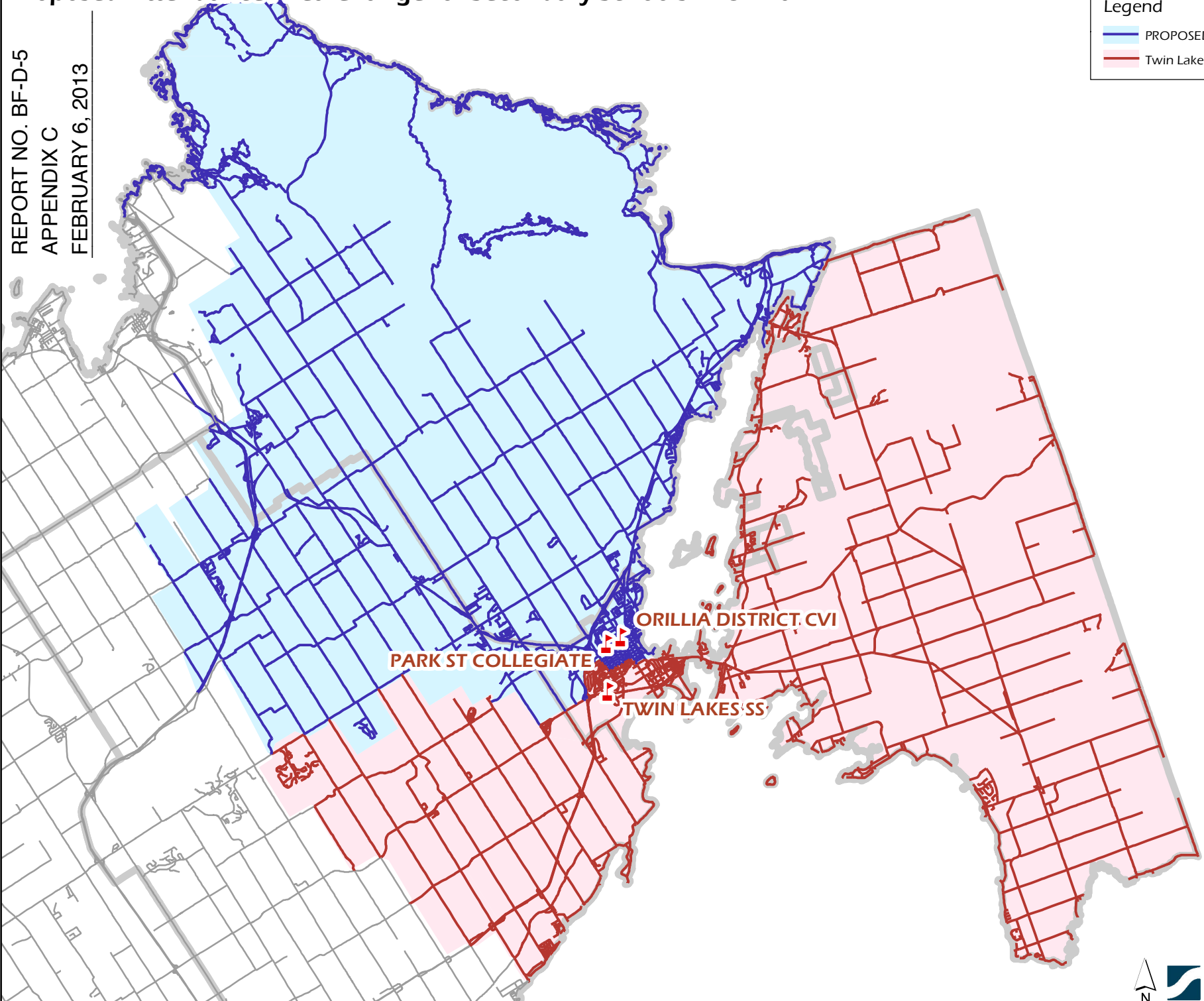
REPORT NO. BF-D-5
APPENDIX B-2
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Proposed Attendance Area Change for Secondary Schools in Orillia

REPORT NO. BF-D-5
APPENDIX C
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Legend

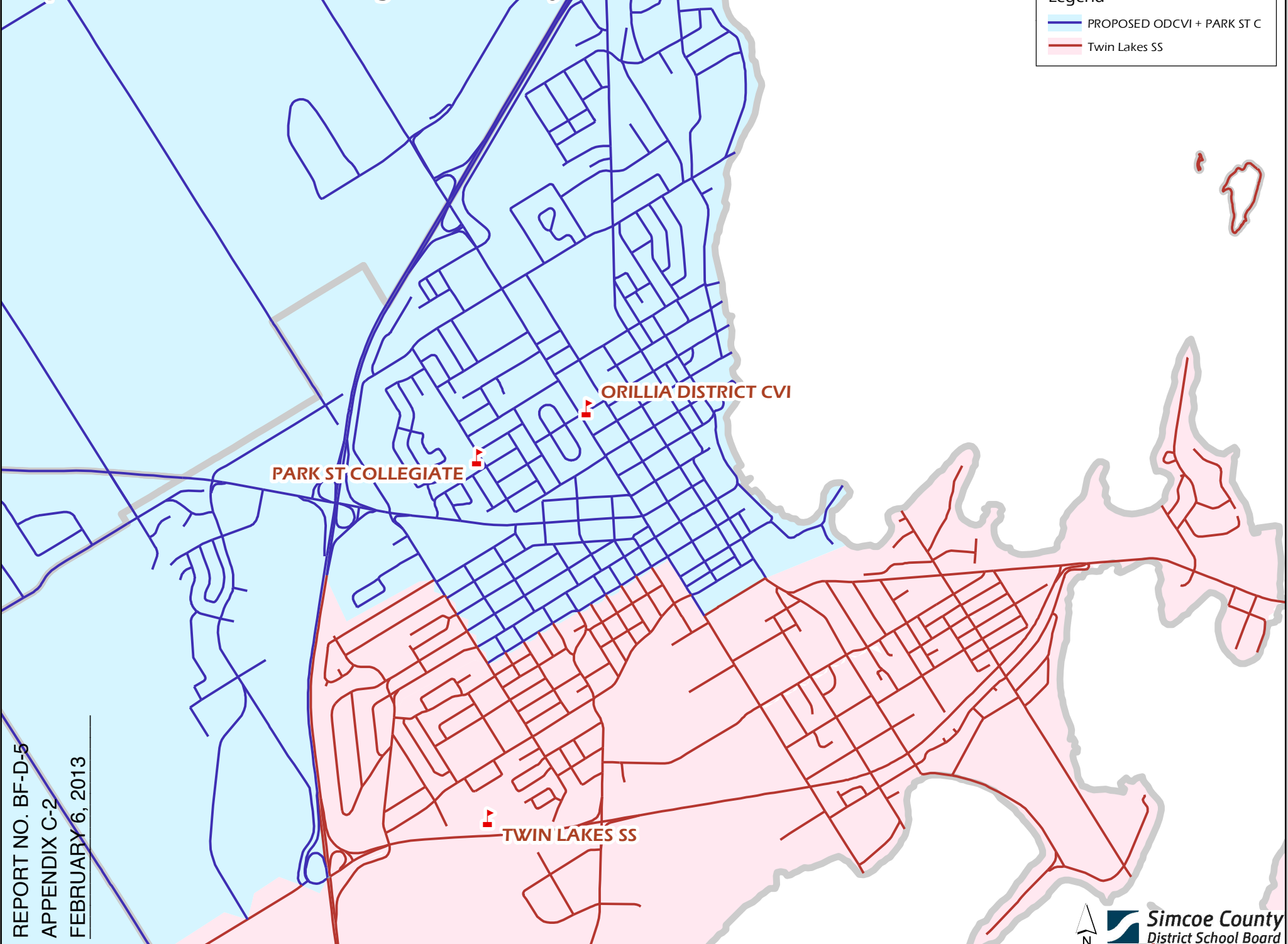
- PROPOSED ODCVI + PARK ST C
- Twin Lakes SS



Proposed Attendance Area Change for Secondary Schools in Orillia

Legend

- PROPOSED ODCVI + PARK ST C
- Twin Lakes SS



REPORT NO. BF-D-5
APPENDIX C-2
FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Current

Park Street C.I.

School	Rate
Coldwater	80%
East Oro	100%
Guthrie	20%
Harriett Todd	20%
Lions Oval	40%
Orchard Park	60%
Warminster	100%

Twin Lakes SS

School	Rate
Brechin	100%
Harriett Todd	80%
Rama	100%
Regent Park	60%
Uptergrove	100%

O.D.C.V.I

School	Rate
Ardtree/Cumberland Bch	100%
Couchiching Hts.	100%
Lions Oval	60%
Marchmont	100%
Orchard Park	40%
Regent Park	40%

Proposed

Park Street C.I./O.D.C.V.I.

School	Rate
Ardtree/Cumberland Bch	100%
Coldwater	80%
Couchiching Hts.	100%
Lions Oval	100%
Marchmont	100%
Orchard Park	100%
Warminster	100%

Twin Lakes SS

School	Rate
Brechin	100%
East Oro	100%
Guthrie	20%
Harriett Todd	100%
Rama	100%
Regent Park	100%
Uptergrove	100%

Current

School	Capacity	Current Enrolment	Projected Enrolment			% of Capacity			
			2013	2018	2023	Current	2013	2018	2023
O.D.C.V.I	933	647	619	745	757	69%	66%	80%	81%
Park Street C.I.	954	611	623	654	664	64%	65%	69%	70%
Twin Lakes S.S.	966	793	778	656	625	82%	81%	68%	65%
Total	2853	2051	2020	2055	2046	72%	71%	72%	72%

Proposed

School	Capacity	Current Enrolment	Projected Enrolment			% of Capacity			
			2013	2018	2023	Current	2013	2018	2023
O.D.C.V.I./Park Street C.I.	933	NA	1170	1113	1113	NA	125%	111%	111%
Twin Lakes S.S.	966	NA	850	942	933	NA	88%	98%	97%
Total	1899	NA	2020	2055	2046	NA	106%	108%	108%

Note: O.D.C.V.I./Park Street C.I. 2013 utilization reflects current O.D.C.V.I. capacity. It is anticipated the new school will be approximately 1,005 pupil places and utilization figures for 2018 and 2023 account for the change in capacity.